

WIDESPREAD DISTRESS DUE TO COAL STRIKE

Almost Every Branch of Industry
in England Has Been
Hard Hit.

WORKERS FEEL THE PINCH

Some Mines May Never Reopen—Union
Funds Low—Effect on General
Public.

LONDON, March 23.—The strike of the coal miners is less than two weeks old, but the effect on industry is very serious. It is necessary only to read the headlines in the daily newspapers to realize how widespread and calamitous is the prevailing industrial distress. Nearly every branch of industry has been hard hit, and an astonishing number of concerns whose business is not even remotely connected with the use of coal have been affected.

The railway workers seem to have been hit about as hard as the employees of any branch of industry. Their own particular strike depleted the funds of their trade union and there is little if anything in the union's treasury to care for the men thrown out of work by the action of the miners in shutting off the supply of coal.

On some railway lines train service, both passenger and freight, has been cut to a minimum, to what is termed a compulsory service. Week end and Sunday excursion trains, special trains for fox hunters, trains for commuters, a vast army of whom live in the suburbs of London—in fact, all trains of a special character—have been discontinued on nearly every railway system in England, Scotland and Wales.

One railway company has tried to run to full service, but all the others have made curtailment in one or more of their branches. Some have gone to the extreme of closing passenger stations in thickly settled communities where stations are not far apart and local transportation to them by street cars or other cheap means is available. One railway company has withdrawn its employees and locked the doors of fourteen stations in London and its suburbs.

In order to make the distress of unemployment as little felt as possible, the railway companies have put their employees on short time in order to give employment to all. In the railway shops the employees have been harder hit than the trainmen for the necessity of utilizing all the coal at hand for running trains has brought locomotive and car building to an end.

The railways are said to be doing their utmost to keep the big cities supplied with provisions, and this accounts in a measure for the heavy curtailment of passenger train service. With the knowledge of the present discomfort of travelling people accustomed to make railway journeys are staying at home. This tends to relieve the situation somewhat. But the compartments of British railway trains are frightfully overcrowded in spite of the law against that practice.

First class compartments are fitted with six seats, and those of the second and third classes with seats for ten each. The seats run crosswise, and the passengers face each other. With from fifteen to twenty-five people crowded into one of these compartments the discomfort, approaching suffocation, is such as to make a New York subway car in the rush hour seem a luxury.

One of the worst features of the situation is the prospect of irreparable damage to mines. It was conceded by the Miners Federation that engineers and others necessary to perform the duty of keeping mines from flooding should be permitted to remain in the service of the mine owners. Some of the engineers refused to take advantage of this permission and went out with the other workers.

In consequence of this some mines are flooded, and it is doubtful if they will be reopened. A condition that has produced the same disastrous result is found in the refusal of miners to supply enough coal to run the pumping engines.

Mannell, a miners' agent, has declared that he did everything to induce the miners to get sufficient coal for this purpose. A newspaper investigator who has been through the Black Country says that when the present stock of coal for pumping purposes is exhausted "half the collieries at least will never open again."

There is a widespread opinion among coal owners and shippers that British coal prestige will never be fully regained, and they are saying that the trade that is being lost by the strike will go to the United States.

Pledgy evidence is at hand to support this view. Experience has taught business men in this country that once diverted British trade seldom if ever returns in full measure and they are expecting as a permanent thing a severe curtailment of coal output as well as loss in the coal carrying trade.

And how is the United Kingdom demeaning itself during this crisis? There is gloom throughout the land. The natural seriousness that marks the people of England appears to have deepened. There is gloom also in Scotland and Wales whose great industries are being stifled.

From all over the land come stories of distress. Children particularly have felt the effects of the changed conditions—that is the children of working people on strike or thrown out of work through the stoppage of the coal supply. In some places they are going barefooted to school. The souphouse has become a reality again.

How the strike has gone beyond mere industry in its blighting power and has affected practically every line of human effort and everything else that goes to make up the sum total of human comfort and pleasure is shown by the loss of business by the theatres. London managers who had planned to send companies through the provinces have cancelled their dates, mainly on account of the uncertainty of train service but partly because there has been a falling off in attendance at theatrical performances. One syndicate has closed its music halls in the suburbs of London because the patronage wasn't sufficient to pay expenses.

It might be supposed that with the ample preparations made to weather the storm through the accumulation of great quantities of coal when it was plentiful and cheap the pinch of the fuel famine would not be felt by those who had been so prudent at this early stage of the strike, which is less than a fortnight old. But the supplies that seemed bounteous and dwindling with alarming rapidity and the uncertainty as to the length of the strike

has demanded the application of economy of coal consumption.

It may seem superlatively ridiculous that the British Government with a large supply of coal on hand and the ability to get all it wants abroad should have begun to economize its fuel with as much regard for every lump of coal as is shown by the household of moderate means. The attitude of those who attend to the heating of the House of Commons is a case in point. It has been customary for some members of the House to remain in the comfortable, well lighted, well heated reading and lounging rooms of their Parliamentary establishment for hours after adjournment. The practice has been on the part of these to stay until the small hours of the morning. Probably they found the modern, central heating arrangements of the House much more conducive to comfort than rooms at home heated, or supposed to be heated, by grate fires. All this remaining after hours in the parlors of the House has been brought to an end by an order that heat should be turned off as soon as the House adjourns and electric lights shall be supplied only when absolutely necessary.

About the only people in England, Scotland and Wales who appear to be enjoying themselves in these days of trouble are the

KING IN WILL CONTEST.

Alfonso of Spain Wants the Half Million
Left by an Alleged Lunatic.

LONDON, March 24.—King Alfonso of Spain is disputing the possession of a lunatic's fortune with the lunatic's niece and natural heir.

Last October Mr. Albert Sapone, ex-Mayor of Caserta, died in an asylum for the insane. When his will was opened it was found that he had left "his fortune, his titles of nobility and his honorific distinctions" to King Alfonso. M. Sapone was possessed of no titles or decorations, but his fortune was a solid fact in the shape of about half a million dollars.

The will was signed and witnessed in proper form and was on the point of being carried into execution when the natural heir, a niece of M. Sapone, put in her claim. This she based on the fact that her uncle was confined in the asylum in 1908, three years before the will was drawn up, and this fact, combined with the reference to titles and distinctions which the dead man never possessed, she maintained was sufficient to throw suspicion on his state of mind at the time the will was made. After this it was thought that the King would renounce his claim. But apparently by lawyers after the ex-Mayor's \$500,000, for he has instructed his legal advisers to demand that an inventory of the estate be made and that the property be held in chancery pending the decision of the courts.

VIVISECTION APPROVED AFTER LONG INQUIRY

Conclusions of Royal Commission
on the Subject in
England.

CHARGES NOT SUSTAINED

Useful Results Obtained by Science
From Experiments Made
on Animals.

LONDON, March 23.—Six years ago Parliament, in deference to the outcry against vivisection, appointed a royal commission to inquire into the whole matter. The commission consisted of ten members, who took evidence between October, 1906, and March, 1908. The long delay in presenting the final report has been due to the death of two commissioners and the illness of others. The report

of subjecting live animals to experiments by vivisection and otherwise, the commissioners formulate the following conclusions:

We have received evidence from persons eminent in physiological, pathological and sanitary science who have testified to their belief that knowledge has been acquired in regard to the vital functions, the causes of diseases and also in regard to means for their prevention and cure which, in their opinion, but for such experiments, could not have been acquired.

We have, on the other hand, heard many witnesses, some of them having medical qualifications, who have disputed that valuable knowledge has been obtained by such experiments, maintaining that this knowledge has been erroneously attributed to such experiments, or who have contended that success has not attended the application of the knowledge to the preventive or curative treatment of disease.

Having regard to the witnesses who have appeared before us, and to the evidence which we have received, there can be no doubt that the great preponderance of medical and scientific authority is against the opponents of vivisection. This is more markedly so now than was the case before the Royal Commission of 1875. From a general consideration of the

MASCULINE DECADENCE.

Faults Found by a Paris Priest in Frenchmen of the Day.

PARIS, March 24.—Among the alleviations of Lenten rules open to Paris society are the weekly lectures delivered by Mgr. Bolo, one of the most eloquent priests in Paris, who always treats of some topic of the day. His inaugural address this year dealt with masculine decadence.

Mgr. Bolo declared that this decadence dates from the Revolution, of which two characteristics were anarchy, which broke down all constraint, and blasphemy, which killed all respect. The masculine downfall is aggravated in modern days, he said. The contemporary revolutionist may have more varnish than his great ancestor, but he is more barbarous, and Mgr. Bolo enumerated the symptoms of the evil he denounced. First came irreligion.

"The number of people who only confess to a Magistrate, who only communicate in prison, and only communicate in taverns is ever increasing," he said. "To the man of the boulevards who has his laundry done in London and goes to sleep dreaming that some monkeys

PRINCESS WHO MARRIED FOR LOVE

Frederica of Hanover Has Just
Celebrated Her Sixty-fourth
Birthday.

CHOSE A BARON, NOT RANK

Marriage Made by Queen Victoria
Which Caused Disapproval but
Ended Happily.

BERLIN, March 9.—One of the most interesting of European royalties, Princess Frederica of Hanover, celebrates her sixty-fourth birthday to-day. She is the daughter of King George V. of Hanover and his consort Queen Mary, who before her marriage was the Princess of Saxe-Altenburg. At the time the kingdom was turned into a Prussian province she was 18.

Her mother, Queen Mary, continued for many years after the annexation of Hanover to reside with her two daughters, Frederica and Mary, in the fortress of Marienburg in Hanover, which was the Queen's personal property until ex-King George went to live in Paris. There he was joined by Frederica, who enthusiastically shared his political views and grievances.

As a consequence no one was more popular than she with the Hanoverian or Guelph party in Hanover, and for her views and decision of character she was much preferred by that party to her brother, Crown Prince Ernst August, now better known as the Duke of Cumberland. Frederica when in Paris was greatly admired for her beauty and spirit, and gossip soon connected her name with that of the Duc d'Aumale, who industriously paid court to her until she gave him to understand that his suit was hopeless.

Ex-King George died in Paris in 1878. All the family were assembled at the death bed and it was expected that Princess Frederica would accompany her widowed mother to Gmunden, the Austrian residence of the family. She did so, but only for a few months, when she accepted an invitation from Queen Victoria to take up her residence in England. Victoria desired a marriage between the Hanoverian Princess and her younger son, Prince Leopold, and failing this, a marriage between the Princess and Victoria's widower son-in-law, Grand Duke Ludwig of Hesse.

The union was looked forward to with approval in Hanover and its announcement daily expected, when instead a note appeared in the London Times saying that Queen Victoria had given her consent to the marriage of Princess Frederica of Hanover, Great Britain and Ireland to Baron Alfvon Pawel von Rammingen, for many years adjutant to ex-King George. The wedding took place in Windsor Castle on April 24, 1890. The marriage was a mystery to the people of Hanover and the aristocracy of Europe. Only a few days previously Hanoverians who had been in England brought back word that reports as to the possibility of a union between their favorite princess and a mere baron were unfounded.

Then it became known that a mutual affection had long existed between Frederica and Von Pawel and that Frederica had confessed it on Queen Victoria pressing her for an explanation as to why she refused the proposed alliances with Prince Leopold and the Grand Duke of Hesse. To clear the situation Queen Victoria insisted that Frederica should marry Von Pawel. This right to command she possessed as head of the House of Hanover, and Frederica's own mother was not even consulted in the matter.

Frederica's marriage caused excitement and disapproval among loyal Hanoverians, who for long took the view that at least Frederica ought to have had the assent of her brother, Duke Ernst of Cumberland, the de facto head of the royal family of Hanover. The Princess's pictures were taken off the walls of the houses of loyal Hanoverians, and while she was no longer known as "our Princess" her non-royal husband was slangily referred to as "Push Pawel."

Elsewhere than in Hanover the news of the marriage was sympathetically received. English papers particularly painted the union in romantic colors as that with a "knightly, noble and faithful servant of an unfortunate king, who despised the high honors awaiting him as an officer in the Prussian army and preferred to share the bread of exile with his royal master."

Detractors, on the other hand, pointed out that Von Pawel was the son of a simple privy councillor who entered the Hanoverian army as a cadet at the royal expense. He was present at the battle of Langensalza in 1866 as a Lieutenant, but left the army immediately thereafter to devote himself to the service of the King. He accompanied the exiled monarch to Paris, where he managed the ex-King's household and where he was brought into intimacy with Princess Frederica.

Almost thirty-two years have passed since Princess Frederica married the man of her choice. Her relations with her mother had long before the latter's death become affectionate and normal. For years also she has been reconciled with her brother, the Duke of Cumberland, and she has even once more become the favorite and toast of the Guelph party in Hanover.

LABOUCHERE'S FORTUNE.

Classes of Securities in Which His Estate
May Be Invested.

LONDON, March 24.—The £2,000,000 sterling which, according to rumor, the late Henry Labouchere left, has dwindled to the still handsome sum of £322,306 now that the will has been proved. The duties upon this will amount to £288,000.

Labouchere was far years recognized as an authority on the degree of security offered by investments, and it is interesting to notice those investments which he especially includes in, or excludes from, the list of securities in which his trustees are authorized to invest trust moneys. Included in his special list for investment are:

First mortgage debentures of any railway company in the United States which for the preceding five years has distributed not less than \$4,000,000 in the payment of dividends.

The public debt of the Kingdom of Prussia (8½ per cent. Prussian consols).

First mortgage debentures of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

The stocks, bonds or securities of any municipal corporation in England or of the Governments of Sweden or Norway or Holland.



COUNT WITTE WARNS RUSSIA.

He Sees Danger in a Hostile Attitude
Toward China at Present.

St. Petersburg, March 9.—Count Witte is seeking persistently to force a reentry into Russian politics. After a circumstantial condemnation of the Russo-English convention as it affects Russian interests in Persia, he now speaks out vigorously against the Russian State Department interfering in Mongolia.

"For one grab that Russia could make of the outskirts of the Chinese Empire Japan could make three," he declares. "And Japan would wish nothing better than to have Russia's initiative as a pretext."

"China will get over her present unsettledness and will be a very great power. All Russia's interests should impel her not to do anything during the present phase in China to give reason to the leaders of Chinese affairs for thinking that Russia was scheming to take advantage of her transition."

"The creation of a definitely hostile attitude in China toward Russia would do such damage to the Czar's empire in the next decade that no diplomatic successes in Europe would compensate for it."

The Nationalists and the Xorog Yemaya are diametrically opposed to Count Witte. They keep urging M. Sazonov, as director of foreign policy, to seize the favorable opportunity and to send political counselors and military instructors and money into Mongolia.

COURT DRESS CHANGED.

Trains Square and Shorter and Vests
Reduced in Length.

LONDON, March 14.—The early courts at Buckingham Palace are always of court dress. From the fashion point of view, and this season more so than ever, for both the Lord Chamberlain and fashion have promulgated new sumptuary laws.

Posted up in every fashionable dress-making establishment is a copy of the Lord Chamberlain's latest decree on court dress. To the effect of the tall, statuesque woman, a fairly common type nowadays, the stately old four yard train has been abolished and the day of the short square train has been officially inaugurated. According to the new rule the skirt of the gown should extend not less than fifteen inches on the ground, and the regulation length of the court train is three yards from the shoulder and the width at the end is fifty-four inches, but in any case, so says the Lord Chamberlain, the train should not be of a greater length on the ground than fifty-four inches thus giving a square effect.

The veil too has been reduced by one-quarter of its usual length and should not now exceed forty-five inches, and there is a slight alteration in the arrangement of the feathers, the three white feathers mounted as a Prince of Wales's plume now being worn slightly on the left side of the head.

is unanimous and contains nothing of a nature to please the anti-vivisectionists. In the first place the report dismisses, almost contemptuously, the charges made by anti-vivisectionist witnesses against the administration of the act which strictly regulates the conditions under which all vivisection work may be done, and also the charges against individual vivisectionists licensed under the act. Every case was carefully investigated, with the result that one woman's assertions, which were of a very strong nature, were gently declared to have been "founded on a misapprehension," while "other witnesses" have "either misapprehended or inaccurately described the facts of the experiments."

The commissioners point out that in recent years the value of the experimental method on animals has been largely recognized by the public at large as well as by various public bodies and that this recognition has taken practical shape in various ways, such as:

(1) The foundation of schools of tropical medicine, subsidized by the Colonial Office and Colonial Governments and the appointment of research expeditions or commissions to investigate on the spot such diseases as sleeping sickness, plague, malaria, Malta fever, &c.

(2) The foundation of an Imperial research fund for the purpose of investigating cancer.

(3) The appointment of a royal commission to investigate by experimental methods and otherwise that great scourge to the human race, tuberculosis.

From a full inquiry into the practice

evidence the commissioners are led to think that although certain results claimed from time to time to have been proved by vivisection as beneficial in preventing or curing disease have been proved subsequently to be useless, nevertheless,

1. Valuable knowledge has been acquired in regard to physiological processes and the causation of disease, and that useful methods for the prevention, cure and treatment of certain diseases have resulted from experimental investigations upon living animals.

2. As far as they can judge it is highly improbable that without experiments made on animals, mankind would at the present time have been in possession of such knowledge.

3. There is ground for believing that similar methods of investigation, if pursued in the future, will be attended with similar results.

It may be noted that this last conclusion of the royal commission has already been amply justified. The commission has made its report entirely on the evidence it took in 1906-08. Since then much has happened. There is not a word in the report about Flexner's work on spotted fever and infantile paralysis, nothing of the complete results of the preventive treatment against typhoid fever in the British army in India and the recent army order in the United States making this protection compulsory, and not a word about the later figures from the Pasteur Institute and from the hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Board of which bear testimony to the work of the vivisectionists.

He opened the door to question the coachman when three masked men, armed with revolvers, jumped in and bound and gagged him. The carriage stopped in a remote part of old Stamboul, and presently Ahmed Riza found himself in a room where some twenty masked men were seated at a long table.

He was subjected to a searching cross-examination on the intention of the Young Turkish party with regard to the Tripoli war, the army and navy, the new elections and other political matters. His answers were taken down in writing, and every time he hesitated a pistol was pointed at his head with the threat of instant death if he refused to disclose the details demanded.

Ahmed Riza thought discretion was the better part of valor, and afterward he was blindfolded and taken into another room, where he was shown a large treasure. It was explained to him that he was in the power of a secret organization, whose object was to destroy the Constitution and replace Abdul Hamid on the throne.

After this the Young Turkish leader was again blindfolded and eventually he found himself in the small hours of the morning and somewhat dazed in a little alleyway off the Bosphorus. With difficulty he made his way back to the Union and Progress Committee rooms, where his non-appearance has given rise to grave misgivings.

The secret police are supposed to be on the track of the reactionary conspirators, but who their leaders are remains at present a mystery.